

fateful decisions: the most important is whether or not to run again. If he chooses to stay in office for another term, he risks sparking demonstrations. Though Kyrgyzstan is not Georgia, something akin to a Rose Revolution should not be excluded as a possible scenario. If Akaev opts to step down, however, we should not expect that he, his family and entourage would permit free and fair elections. More likely, he will try to select a successor—as Boris Yeltsin did with Vladimir Putin in Russia—and act to ensure his victory. But that course, too, could lead to protests.

Any decision Akaev makes—with intrusive, anxious neighbors looking over his shoulder—is risky and might have resonance beyond Kyrgyzstan's borders. For that reason, the elections in Kyrgyzstan next year are of great interest not only to the voters of that country but to capitals near and far. Mr. Speaker, I hope to be able to report to this chamber next year that democratization has made strides in Central Asia.

HONORING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RUTH HYMAN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF GREATER MONMOUTH COUNTY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of the Ruth Hyman Jewish Community Center of Greater Monmouth County, located in my Congressional district in Deal, New Jersey. I would like to congratulate the center and its supporters on 65 years of exemplary service to the Jewish community of Monmouth County.

Since its founding in 1939 in Long Branch, my hometown, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Monmouth County has served as a crucial hub for the surrounding Jewish community. In 1960, the Center purchased a plot of land in Deal and over the next 11 years, the Center and its leadership worked to raise funds and construct a new facility.

The Ruth Hyman Center is commemorating its 65th anniversary at a celebration this weekend. The Center is taking this opportunity to recognize the great contributions of their leaders, past and present, for their dedication to strengthening the community and expanding the Center. I would like to specifically acknowledge the contributions of Dr. Larry Karasic, Judge Ira Kreizman, Leon Katz, Patti Blume, Dr. Fred Ezon, Donald Epstein, and past Chairman of the Board Emanuel Mullen that are being honored at this weekend's event.

This weekend, the Center will also dedicate the Stanley Benn Swimming Pool and the Lilian and Ken Cayre Youth Center. I commend the Center and all the capital campaign donors on these important additions.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the vast achievements and continued service of the Center. Once again, I congratulate the Ruth Hyman Jewish Community Center of Greater Monmouth County on its 65th anniversary and I wish them the best of luck in all your future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF BOB CRUZ

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob Cruz, whose lifelong dedication to San Benito County consists of many volunteer and local government positions. Bob will be stepping down as the San Benito Supervisor for District 5, where he has served for 8 years.

Born and raised in San Benito County, Bob has been a strong advocate for affordable housing in the community and has been instrumental in the construction of 58 affordable homes in our community. In addition to serving on the County Board of Supervisors, which he chaired for two years, he has also served as Director and Chair of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District Board. Furthermore, he was the first Supervisor in San Benito to sit on the Children's and Families First Commission, and he immediately took an active interest in establishing this commission and working towards ensuring that early childhood development programs and services are continuously available for children until they begin kindergarten.

In addition, Bob has served on the Mental Health Advisory board, the Building/Expansion Committee, the Treasury Oversight Committee and nearly a dozen other local government commissions. Working beyond his posts in the local government, Bob also oversaw the creation of YMCA programs throughout the County.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Bob on his long and honorable career and thank him for his contribution to our society. Bob has consistently gone above and beyond the roles bestowed upon him, and has left a legacy of community leadership. I wish him all the luck in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING THE HONORABLE H.L. "SONNY" CALLAHAN ON RECEIPT OF THE MOBILE BAY AREA VETERANS DAY COMMISSION'S PATRIOT OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to pay tribute to former Congressman Sonny Callahan on the occasion of his being honored by the Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission with its Patriot of the Year Award.

Congressman Callahan is certainly no stranger to many in this chamber. For 18 years, he served as the representative of Alabama's First Congressional District, during which time he established a level of public service second to none. During his nine terms in the House of Representatives, he worked tirelessly on behalf of the residents of south Alabama, ensuring that their needs and concerns were heard and that their individual problems received the attention they deserved. He displayed a tireless dedication to all citizens of the First District who, in turn,

demonstrated their confidence in his abilities by returning him to Washington, D.C., time and again for almost twenty years.

At the national level, Congressman Callahan was one of the most effective and well-liked members to ever serve in the House. A strong believer in responsive and responsible government, he was very conscious of the necessity to work with members from both sides of the aisle and was a master at forging alliances with colleagues regardless of party affiliation. From 1994 to 2000, he served as the Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs. For the following two years, he served as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee's Energy and Water Subcommittee. In both positions, he brought both a deliberative approach and a desire for consensus-building to his committees. His strong leadership skills and his desire to work in unison with his colleagues engendered a great level of devotion and praise among the men and women with whom he served.

More than anything else, however, the Patriot of the Year Award is a tribute to Congressman Callahan's efforts on behalf of the veterans in his district. Having served in the United States Navy during the Korean War, he has for many years been keenly aware of the many challenges facing men and women who have served and continue to serve in the armed forces of the United States. Many thousands of Alabamians who devoted large parts of their lives in service to their country could always count on Sonny to provide a voice for them in agencies where they would otherwise have not been heard, and support for them when they had nowhere else to turn.

Mr. Speaker, I can think of no higher honor that could be bestowed on a man whom I not only consider to be tremendous congressman and mentor, but a close personal friend. Along with his family—his wife, Karen, his sons, Scott, Chris, and Patrick, and his daughters, Shawn and Kelly—and his many friends and former colleagues, I wish to extend to Congressman Sonny Callahan my warmest congratulations on receiving the Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission's Patriot of the Year Award.

SAVING THE ANAHEIM ANGELS

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the city of Anaheim and its quest to save the Anaheim Angels.

While I completely understand the team's desire to garner more TV attention and more marketing dollars, there must be another way besides changing the name to the Los Angeles Angels.

What's in a name? Well, how about a 2002 World Series Championship. The Anaheim Angels won the team its first national title.

Secondly, and more importantly, it's part of the deal. In 1997, the Angels and the city of Anaheim made an agreement, and naming the team the Anaheim Angels was part of that agreement. To change the name would not